THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Both the fly ash and blast furnace slag generated by Thermal Power Plants and Steel Plants respectively constitute an environmental concern and problem. About 12 million tonnes of fly ash and 5 million tonnes of blast furnace slag are being used by the cement industry.

(c) Government of India has issued a Notification in September, 1999 which *inter alia* stipulates the use of fly ash by building and road construction agencies. The Notification envisages utilising the entire fly ash generated by the Thermal Power Plants in 9/15 years. A number of Thermal Power Plants have established facilities for collection of storage of dry fly ash wherever required. The Bureau of Indian Standards has revised its specification for use of fly ash in cement from 25% to 35%. Bureau of Indian Standards has also published standards for use of portland blast furnace slag cement which permits use of granulated slag from steel plant up to 75% in the cement manufacture. The Indian Road Congress has published the standards for use of fly ash in the road construction. A number of State Governments have included fly ash bricks/ products/pozzolona cement in their specifications, schedules and tender documents. Fly ash utilisation programme of Department of Science and Technology also facilitates demonstration projects on manufacture of fly ash bricks and back filling of underground coal mines with fly ash. Building Material Technology Promotion Council of Ministry of Urban Development conducts awareness programme on use of fly ash bricks/products in building construction. Central Government is continuously monitoring the utilisation of fly ash and has asked the steel industry to study the back filling of mines with blast furnace slag. The State Governments have also constituted monitoring committee to monitor the use of fly ash by different sectors.

Submission of schemes by Central Pollution Board

†1838. SHRI P.K. MAHESHWARI: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(a) the details of the schemes submitted by the Central Pollution Board to Government for its approval during the last three years;

(b) the number of schemes out of them Government have granted approval for implementation; and

(c) Government's plan on the schemes still pending for its approval?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) to (c) The Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) every year submits Annual Action Plan consisting of several schemes under the major heads as approved by their Board, to the Government for approval. All such schemes detailed in the Annual Action Plan have been approved by the Government and 100% grants-in-aid, as recommended by the Planning Commission, has been provided by the Government during last three years. As on date, no schemes submitted by the CPCB are pending for approval by the Government.

Pending environmental projects of Maharashtra

1839. SHRI BALWANT *ALIAS* BAL APTE:
SHRI RUDRA NARAYAN PANY:

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of environmental projects from Maharashtra pending for approval by Government along with the reasons therefor;

(b) the details of the cost of each project;

(c) whether any additional information has been sought from the State Government or the organizations concerned; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) to (d) The details of projects from Maharashtra pending for environmental clearance are furnished in Statement.